

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling an injection molding machine including a heating cylinder and a screw disposed in the heating cylinder, and performing a plasticization/measuring process and an injecting process, said method comprising the steps of:

defining a synchronization ratio S of a rotation speed of the screw to be 100 % when the position of a flight thereof does not apparently move relative to a constant backward speed V of the screw; and

moving the screw backwards while rotating it after completion of the measuring process or the injecting process;

wherein a rotation speed R of the screw during the backward movement is given by multiplying the rotation speed R, which is expressed by the equation,  $R = \text{backward speed } V / \text{pitch } P$  of the flight, by an arbitrary synchronization ratio  $S_x$ .

2. (Original) A method for controlling the injection molding machine according to claim 1,

wherein, when the synchronization ratio S is less than 100 %, the screw is rotated more slowly relative to the backward speed V of the screw, so that a resin in the heating cylinder tends to be dragged backwards with the flight of the screw; and

wherein, when the synchronization ratio S is 100 % or more, the screw is rotated

faster relative to the backward speed  $V$  of the screw, so that the resin in the heating cylinder tends to be fed forward of the screw.

3. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling an injection molding machine including a heating cylinder, a screw disposed in the heating cylinder, a first driving source for driving the screw in an axial direction, a second driving source for rotating the screw, position detecting means for detecting an axial position of the screw, rotation-speed detecting means for detecting the rotation speed of the screw, and a controller for controlling the first driving source and the second driving source dependent on the detecting signals transmitted from the position detecting means and the rotation-speed detecting means, and performing a plasticization/measuring process and an injecting process, said method comprising the steps of:

defining a synchronization ratio  $S$  of a rotation speed of the screw to be 100 % when the position of a flight thereof does not apparently move relative to a constant backward speed  $V$  of the screw,

wherein the controller moves the screw backwards while rotating it after the completion of the measuring process or the injecting process; and

wherein a rotation speed  $R$  of the screw during the backward movement is given by multiplying the rotation speed  $R$ , which is expressed by the equation,  $R = \text{backward speed } V / \text{pitch } P \text{ of the flight}$ , by an arbitrary synchronization ratio  $S_x$ .

4. (Original) A method for controlling the injection molding machine according to claim 3,

wherein, when the synchronization ratio  $S$  is less than 100 %, the controller generates a tendency to drag a resin in the heating cylinder backward with the flight of the screw by rotating the screw more slowly relative to the backward speed  $V$  of the screw; and

wherein, when the synchronization ratio  $S$  is 100 % or more, the controller generates a tendency to feed the resin in the heating cylinder forward of the screw by rotating the screw more faster relative to the backward speed  $V$  of the screw.

5. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling an injection molding machine in order to perform a resin plasticization/measuring process and an injecting process, wherein:

the injection molding machine includes a heating cylinder and a screw having a flight of a pitch  $P$ , the screw being arranged within the heating cylinder;

the method comprising the step of defining a synchronization ratio  $S$  with reference to a rotation speed  $R$  and a constant linear backward speed  $V$  of the screw, the synchronization ratio  $S$  being equal to 100% when the flight does not apparently move while the screw is rotated and linearly moved backwards, the synchronization ratio  $S$  being smaller than 100% when the flight moves backwards while the screw is rotated and linearly moved backwards, the synchronization ratio  $S$  being greater than 100% when the

flight moves forwards while the screw is rotated and linearly moved backwards;

the method further comprising the step of making the screw linearly move backward at a selected synchronization ratio  $S_x$  and simultaneously rotate after completion of the plasticization/measuring process or the injecting process;

a selected rotation speed  $R_s$  of the screw being given by:

$$R_s = (V/P) \times S_x.$$

6. (Original) A method for controlling the injection molding machine according to claim 5, wherein:

the resin in the heating cylinder tends to be dragged backwards with the flight of the screw when the selected synchronization ratio  $S_x$  is smaller than 100%;

the resin in the heating cylinder tends to be fed forward of the screw relative to the backward movement of the screw when the selected synchronization ratio  $S_x$  is not smaller than 100%.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling an injection molding machine in order to perform a resin plasticization/measuring process and an injecting process, wherein:

the injection molding machine includes a heating cylinder, a screw having a flight of a pitch  $P$  and arranged within the heating cylinder, a first driving source for driving the screw in an axial direction, a second driving source for rotating the screw, a position

detecting device for detecting an axial position of the screw, a rotation-speed detecting device for detecting the rotation speed of the screw, and a controller for controlling the first and the second driving sources in response to detecting signals transmitted from the position detecting device and the rotation-speed detecting device;

the method comprising the step of defining a synchronization ratio S with reference to a rotation speed R of the screw and a constant linear backward speed V of the screw, the synchronization ratio S being equal to 100% when the flight does not apparently move while the screw is rotated and linearly moved backwards, the synchronization ratio S being smaller than 100% when the flight moves backwards while the screw is rotated and linearly moved backwards, the synchronization ratio S being greater than 100% when the flight moves forwards while the screw is rotated and linearly moved backwards;

the method further comprising the step of controlling the movement so that the screw is linearly moved backward at a selected synchronization ratio Sx and simultaneously controlling the rotation of the screw, after completion of the plasticization/measuring process or the injecting process;

a selected rotation speed Rs of the screw being given by:

$$R_s = (V/P) \times S_x.$$

8. (Original) A method for controlling the injection molding machine according to claim 7, wherein:

the controller controls the movement of the screw so that the resin in the heating cylinder tends to be dragged backwards with the flight of the screw, when the selected synchronization ratio  $S_x$  is smaller than 100%;

the controller controls the movement of the screw so that the resin in the heating cylinder tends to be fed forward of the screw relative to the backward movement of the screw, when the selected synchronization ratio  $S_x$  is not smaller than 100%.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling an injection molding machine in order to control the movement of a molten resin in a heating cylinder of the injection molding machine, the injection molding machine including a screw arranged within the heating cylinder to be rotatable and to be linearly movable and having a flight of a pitch  $P$ , the molten resin being moved in a forward feeding direction during a plasticization process and an injecting process;

the method comprising the step of linearly moving the screw backwards relative to the forward feeding direction of the molten resin at a constant backward speed and simultaneously rotating the screw in the forward feeding direction at a rotation speed, after completion of the plasticization process or the injecting process.

10. (Original) A method for controlling an injection molding machine according to claim 9, wherein, when the screw linearly moves backward, the screw moves at a linear backward speed  $V$  and a rotation speed  $R$  in the forward feeding direction to define

a synchronization ratio S based on the rotation speed R of the screw and the linear backward speed V of the screw, the synchronization ratio S being equal to 100% when the flight does not apparently move while the screw is rotated and linearly moved backwards in the forward feeding direction, the synchronization ratio S being smaller than 100% when the flight moves backwards while the screw is rotated and linearly moved backwards in the forward feeding direction, the synchronization ratio S being greater than 100% when the flight moves forwards while the screw is rotated and linearly moved backwards in the forward feeding direction.

11. (Original) A method for controlling an injection molding machine according to claim 10, wherein a selected rotation speed  $R_s$  of the screw being given by:

$$R_s = (V/P) \times S.$$

12. (Original) A method of controlling an injection molding machine according to claim 10, wherein:

the resin in the heating cylinder tends to be dragged backwards relative to the forward feeding direction with the flight of the screw when a selected synchronization ratio  $S_x$  is smaller than 100%;

the resin in the heating cylinder stays there when the selected synchronization ratio  $S_x$  is equal to 100%;

the resin in the heating cylinder tends to be fed forward of the screw relative to the

forward feeding direction when the selected synchronization ratio  $S_x$  is greater than 100%.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling an injection molding machine in order to control the movement of a molten resin by a screw in a heating cylinder of the injection molding machine,

the screw being arranged within the heating cylinder to be rotatable and to be linearly movable;

the molten resin being moved in a forward feeding direction during a plasticization process and an injecting process;

the method comprising the step of rotating the screw in the forward feeding direction at a rotation speed  $R$  and simultaneously and linearly moving the screw backwards relative to the forward feeding direction of the molten resin at a constant backward speed  $V$ .

14. (Original) A method for controlling an injection molding machine according to claim 13, wherein the rotation speed  $R$  of the screw is controlled in correspondence to the backward speed  $V$  of the screw.

15. (Original) A method for controlling an injection molding machine according to claim 13, wherein the rotation speed  $R$  of the screw is given, as a selected rotation



speed  $R_s$ , by selecting a synchronization ratio  $S_x$  defined on the basis of a pitch  $P$  of a flight in the screw and the backward speed  $V$  of the screw.

16. (Original) A method for controlling an injection molding machine according to claim 15, wherein the selected rotation speed  $R_s$  of the screw is given by:

$$R_s = (V/P) \times S_x.$$

17. (Original) A method of controlling an injection molding machine according to claim 15, wherein:

the resin in the heating cylinder tends to be dragged backwards relative to the forward feeding direction with the flight of the screw when the selected synchronization ratio  $S_x$  is smaller than 100%;

the resin in the heating cylinder stays there when the selected synchronization ratio  $S_x$  is equal to 100%;

the resin in the heating cylinder tends to be fed forward of the screw relative to the forward feeding direction when the selected synchronization ratio  $S_x$  is greater than 100%.